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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY   Bulgaria

SUBJECT   Purge of the Darjavna Sigurnost

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THIS IS **UNEVALUATED** INFORMATION

1. An anomalous situation has developed during Jan 1954 in the Bulgarian Darjavna Sigurnost. These members of the Sigurnost who formerly aided the Bulgarian Communist leaders to dominate the Bulgarian Communist Party have now, themselves, been placed on the index, by Soviet officers. The Bulgarian Communist leaders had been using the Sigurnost to follow certain of its own members. Some of these had been expelled and others had been arrested.

2. Other Party members have now been arrested, as have also certain members of the Sigurnost, which is now undergoing a purge. Most astonishing is the arrest of Gotcho Grosev, a highly ranking personage in the ranks of the Darjavna Sigurnost. He has been under arrest since 15 Jan 54.

3. Grosev is about forty years of age, coming originally from Kharmanlii and has been a Communist for twenty years. He was at one time occupied with the work of slipping propaganda material between Bulgaria and Turkey. He then went to the USSR, but returned to Bulgaria after 9 Sep 44. He then became the chief collaborator of General Dimo Ditchev.

4. Grosev was in charge of surveillance over opposition leaders. It was he who made the arrest of Nikola Petkov. Further information on this affair is expected.

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